

SENATE RESOLUTION 5

By Johnson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Kendall Gilfillan on being named State Honoree of the 2011 Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to salute those young citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as emerging community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Kendall Gilfillan of Brentwood, a senior at Brentwood High School, has been selected as one of two State Honorees of the 2011 Prudential Spirit of Community Award; and

WHEREAS, this prestigious award was created in 1995 by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in an effort to emphasize the importance that our great Nation places on service to others and to encourage all young Americans to contribute to their communities; and

WHEREAS, Kendall has helped develop and coordinate an annual “battle of the bands” benefit that has raised more than \$16,000 over the past three years. The money raised is used to bring awareness to the movement to eradicate modern-day slavery and to educate citizens in her community about this devastating issue; and

WHEREAS, after she became aware of the issue of human trafficking, which affects 12.3 million individuals worldwide, Kendall Gifillan publicized the benefit event in its first year. The concert drew an audience of more than 200 citizens and raised \$5,000 for the International Justice Mission, a human rights organization which secures justice for victims of slavery, sexual exploitation, and other forms of violent oppression; and

WHEREAS, by the third year of the annual “battle of the bands,” Miss Gilfillan assumed primary responsibility of the benefit event and committed herself year-round to overseeing the

volunteer committees dealing with promotion, band scheduling, stage preparation, prizes, and T-shirt and ticket sales. She also secured sponsorships for the charity from companies and merchandise donated by musicians; and

WHEREAS, driven by her passion for humanity, Kendall Gilfillan has raised more than \$16,500 for the International Justice Mission in the three years that the “battle of the bands” event has been in operation, while educating her community on the raw and atrocious facts of modern-day slavery; and

WHEREAS, as a State Honoree, Miss Gilfillan will receive a \$1,000 award, an engraved silver medallion, and a trip to Washington, D.C., for a series of national recognition events; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people like Kendall Gilfillan who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others, even at a young age; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby congratulate and honor Kendall Gilfillan as a State Honoree of the 2011 Prudential Spirit of Community Award, recognizing her outstanding record of volunteer service, peer leadership, and community spirit, and extending to her our best wishes for her continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.